

# Soldiers - 1937

## Awards for Valor.

### HERO OF BENNING FIRE GETS SOLDIER'S MEDAL

Private Eugene W. Banks, Company A, 24th Infantry, Fort Benning, has been awarded the Soldier's Medal for bravery displayed during a fire at the Benning infantry school reproduction plant, which occurred April 3 of last year, according to announcement yesterday from fourth corps area headquarters.

The announcement indicated that Private Banks went into the burning structure in an attempt to rescue an officer he understood was trapped inside. Banks became blinded by smoke and overcome with heat and was led outside. He later re-entered the building to assist in saving considerable government property.

Banks is a native of Mount Pleasant, Fla.

Soldiers - 1937

Discrimination.

REMOVAL OF ARMY, NAVY  
JIM CROW IS URGED

New York, <sup>10-15-37</sup> ~~Press Service~~ <sup>N.A.A.C.P.</sup> Oct. 15.- Following up the Chicago speech of President Roosevelt, in which he scored the activities of aggressor nations and implied that democracies and peace-loving nations must be prepared to enforce peace, the N.A.A.C.P. has written Secretary Harry H. Woodring of the War department, and President Roosevelt urging the removal of all discrimination in all branches of the military and naval services of the United States.

The N.A.A.C.P. letter warned that in the event of a war crisis, the Negro citizens of the nation would not endure the humiliation and insults which were heaped upon them and their soldiers at the time of the World war.

The N.A.A.C.P. has maintained that Negroes should be admitted to all branches of the naval service and all branches in the army. Several years ago, in reply to the association's frequent letters on this subject, the war department used the excuse that Congress had created only two regiments of infantry and two regiments of cavalry for Negroes and that the war department had no authority to create additional units. The N.A.A.C.P. maintains that colored men who desire to enlist should be admitted to any and all branches without creating special branches by act of Congress.



Soldiers-1937  
Historical

# Spanish War Vets To Meet Next Week

Dept. Of Potomac Division  
To Gather  
AT MASONIC TEMPLE  
In 27th Annual Encampment

The twenty-seventh annual encampment of the Department of the Potomac, United Spanish War Veterans, together with the Department Auxiliary, will be held in Savannah next week, Corporal Brown Camp, local unit, serving as host for the two-day convention which begins Sunday, July 4th, and lasts through the following day.

The encampment will bring to Savannah a large number of veterans of the war with Spain and the meetings will be fraught with unusual interest. Department Commander William A. Jones of Washington, D. C., will preside over the meetings, assisted by Department Senior Commander Watson Law.

Of special interest will be the memorial program Sunday afternoon at three o'clock. It will be held at the Star theatre and will be as follows:

Call to order by department commander.

Presentation of colors.  
Hymn, "America," led by Comrades and audience.

Americanism, led by the department commander.

Invocation by Rev. John W. West, deputy chaplain.

Music.

Welcome address on behalf of citizens, Geo. S. Barton.

Welcome on behalf of the organization, U. S. W. V., Pas Camp Commander Lawrence W. Sales.

Response, Senior Vice Department Commander Watson.

Musical selection by Mrs. Crawford's Female Quartet.

Welcome on behalf of veterans of Foreign Wars, by Past Commander Paul J. Steele.

Address by Cuban Consul, Senor Louis M. Pordome.

National Negro Anthem, Mrs. Crawford's Female Quartet.

Address by the Department Commander, Department of Georgia, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Comrade W. L. Kilroy. Music.

Introduction of department officers.

Roll call of departed comrades, department adjutant.

Roll call of departed sisters, department auxiliary secretary.

Selection, "Sleep Comrades, Sleep," Auxiliary Chorus.

Taps.

Retiring of colors.

Star Spangled Banner.

Benediction, by the Department Chaplain, John W. West.

Harvey Underwood, Past C. C., master of ceremonies.

The business sessions will be held Monday at the Masonic Temple. Among the entertainment features will be a midnight dance Sunday at Coconut Grove which will be sponsored by Corporal Brown Camp and the local unit of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Vance Allison Post No. 2933.

Soldiers-1937  
Historical

# Uncle Lud

Richmond, Va. Times-Dispatch  
May 16, 1937

## Fought in 65

### He Was in Sight of Lee at The Surrender

By LUCY W. WILLIAMS

WE OFTEN hear of the rapidly diminishing number of men who wore the blue and gray, and with the passing of each one, we face the fact anew that only a few more years and the line will have passed out entirely. All of the white men of Brookneal who fought in the War Between the States have gone on. The only Confederate veteran who lives there is a well-respected Negro, and each day it would seem that his steps become a little slower and his gray beard and hair little more grayer. But, with all the infirmities of his 90 or more years, "Uncle Lud Brown" is daily seen meeting the Norfolk and Western train; getting his share of the mail, then going to the post office for more mail, and on to the Virginian Railway station to deliver the mail in time for the train. He has never "taken to" an automobile, but drives a horse and buggy, which, like their owner, have seen better days. The old man and his horse, however, continue to plod along in an effort to do the job in a creditable manner. The mail is gotten from the Virginian train and taken to the post office, a distance of about three-fourths of a mile. This work has continued for a period of about 20 years.

Uncle Lud was born at Red Hill, the last home of Patrick Henry and where he was buried. Sallie Henry was his mother and Anthony Leigh his father. Sallie Henry was a slave owned by John Henry, son of Patrick Henry, and was housemaid for Mrs. Elvira Henry, wife of John Henry. Uncle Lud was later given to Robert Taylor, son of Mrs. Elvira Taylor, daughter of John Henry.

It was from the Taylor home on the Red Hill estate that Uncle Lud left to enter the War Between the States. He was first in the Aspenwall Company, and when, for reasons not now remembered by Uncle Lud, the Aspenwall Company was broken up, he went in "A Company with Captain Wilcox of Georgia, in charge." His time was mainly devoted to driving a wagon, which carried a forge and other blacksmith's implements. Such duties led him into various places and often in great danger, around Richmond, Petersburg, in Henrico, King William, King and Queen Counties and into North Carolina near Henderson. He was often the only Negro in his company, and remained in Captain Wilcox's company until the close of the war. He was in sight of General Lee when he surrendered at Appomattox.

#### Uncle Lud Feels No Bitterness Over Slavery

AFTER the surrender, Uncle Lud was allowed to come to Red Hill on a visit to his people. One day following his arrival home, he was called into the presence of his mistress, Mrs. Henry, who told him, "Now that you are free, you may take the name of Henry for your mother; you may take the name of Leigh for your father, but I should like to ask you to take the name of Ludwell Brown, the name of my sister, Margaret's husband, who lives in Bedford County. If you promise me you will do this, I know you will be true to your word." Mrs. Henry requested that he register under the name of Ludwell Brown, which he gladly did.

Because he served during the war under the name of Lud Henry, some difficulty arose when some years ago Uncle Lud applied for his pension, but after about one year the change of his name was straightened out and he received his pension.

### In Confederate Army

Having been a slave holds no disagreeable memories for Uncle Lud. He says he was always treated with the kindest consideration, and had his master lived, he would like to have remained in his service the rest of his life. From his good English and polite manners, it would appear that more than the usual training was given Uncle Lud. He is always courteous and rather reserved.

#### Uncle Lud Parades

##### Waving Confederate Flag

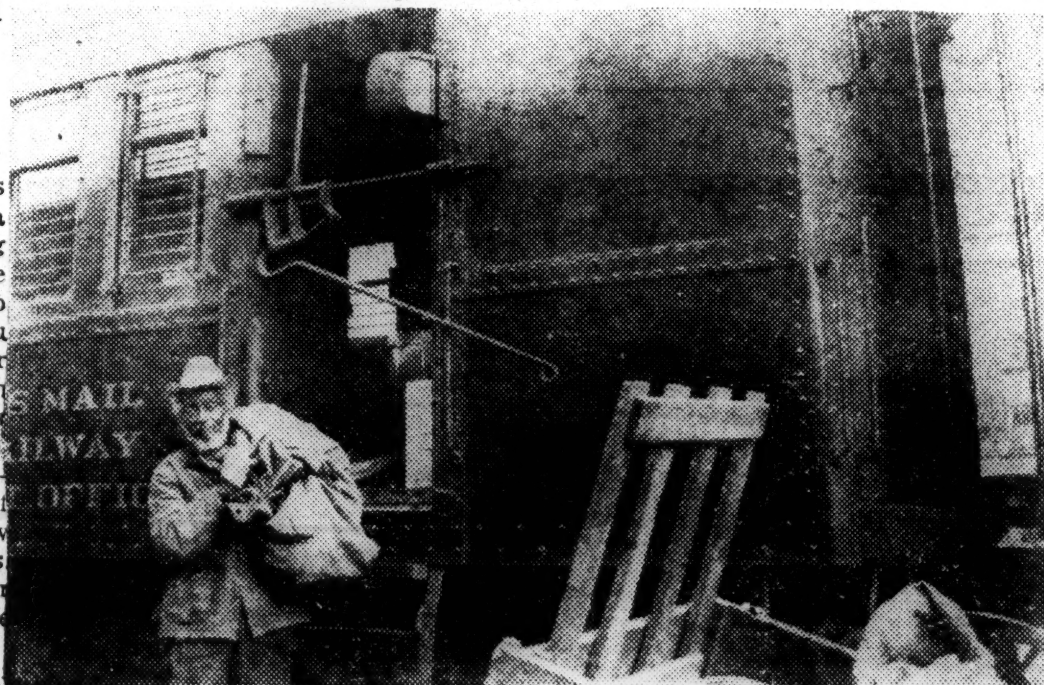
AFTER leaving the Red Hill home, Uncle Lud was employed for about two years as a wagon driver for Mr. Joel Asher, who then lived near Brookneal. He was next employed by Dr. J. M. Wickliffe of Brookneal, and continued in his service for 10 years. Following the death of Dr. Wickliffe, he went to work for Mrs. Nannie E. Cook, and has lived on the estate of the late Mrs. Cook for 45 years, and she provided in her will "that Uncle Lud should have his home his lifetime."

The latter part of January of this year, fire of unknown origin destroyed Uncle Lud's home, and some very valuable papers, including his service record and discharge papers, were burned.

Uncle Lud says one of his happiest experiences occurred recently, when he was asked to attend the sesquicentennial in Lynchburg. He was taken by some of

his white friends to Lynchburg, and there joined two other Confederate soldiers, Silas Green of Lynchburg and Gabe Hunt of Rustburg. The three were asked to ride in the parade and were placed in a Victoria belonging to the Guggenheimer family and drawn by two handsome bay horses. The three were given Confederate flags and they proudly waved these flags as the line of march proceeded.

After receiving much attention during the day from both white and colored people, the day was declared to have been one of the happiest, and Uncle Lud returned to Brookneal and to his work where he is seen daily, rain or shine, with his horse and buggy still in the service of Uncle Sam.





## Confederate Cross Will Mark Grave of "10-Cent Bill" Yopp

A Confederate Cross is to be placed over the grave of "Ten-Cent Bill" Yopp, noted Georgia negro, in the Confederate Cemetery at Marietta, it was announced Monday by Pat Gillen, State Veteran Service officer.

Yopp followed his master into the Confederate Army and went through the entire war attending the needs of his owner and other soldiers. He was allowed to wear the Cross of a Confederate veteran for many years before his death, and lived at the Confederate Soldiers Home in Atlanta for nearly twenty years.

The negro was a popular character around the state legislative halls for a long time, being employed by the speaker of the House and the president of the Senate alternatively as porter or general factotum.

# House Passes Bill Granting Widows Of Civil War Soldiers Increased Pensions

## Twenty-Six Will Receive Sums of \$50 Or \$30 a Month From Uncle Sam.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 29.—The House last Thursday approved a bill granting increase of pensions to the following widows and former widows of colored soldiers in the Civil War:

MRS. SALLIE MILLER, widow of Nathan Miller, late of Company E, 127th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month in lieu of that she is now receiving.  
MRS. EMMA J. MILLER, widow of Oliver P. Miller, late of Company E, 127th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension at the rate of \$50 a month in lieu of that she is now receiving.

MRS. AGNES BENTLEY, widow of Sampson Bentley, late of Company L, 11th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Heavy Artillery, a pension at the rate of \$50 a month in lieu of that she is now receiving.

MRS. LYDIA E. LATON, former widow of Samuel H. Harrison, late second lieutenant, Company D, 65th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, and private, Company B, 7th Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, a pension at the rate of \$50 a month in lieu of that she is now receiving.

MRS. MARTHA BROWN, widow of James L. Brown, alias Lemon Stiles, late of Company H, 118th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$50 a month in lieu of that she is now receiving.

MRS. EFFIE WASHINGTON, widow of William Washington, late of Company K, 16th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$50 a month in lieu of that she is now receiving.

MRS. MARY MILLER, widow of Winston Miller, late of Company K, 125th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. FRANCES VAUGHN, widow of Woodson Vaughn, late of Company F, 125th Infantry, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$20 a month and increase to \$30 a month from the date she becomes 30 years of age.

MRS. GUSSIE DAWSON, widow of Phil Dawson, late of Company A, 122d Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. LIZZIE DAVIS, widow of Simel Davis, late of Company C, 27th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. BELLE R. TAYLOR, widow of Richard Taylor, late of Company K, 11th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Heavy Artillery, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. EVANGELINE R. BUTLER, widow of William Henry H. Butler, late of Company E, 5th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. BELLE ROBINSON, widow of Charles H. Robinson, alias Archibald Bush, late of Company L, 12th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Heavy Artillery, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. ROSA ANDERSON, widow of John Anderson, late of Company H, 93rd and 81st Regiments, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. ANNIE LEWIS, widow of Taylor Lewis, late of Company B, 123d Regiment, United States Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MISS EDNA B. HARTLEY, helpless and dependent daughter of William Hartley, late of Company D, 55th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and 1st lieutenant, Company F, 34th Regiment, United States Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$20 a month.

MRS. FANNIE J. MANN, widow of William J. Mann, late of Company D, 26th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. MAGGIE BERRY, widow of Samuel Berry, alias Samuel Cythiana, late of Company D, 12th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Heavy Artillery, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. CHARLOTTE M. SPAULDING, widow of Franklin M. Spaulding, late first lieutenant and regimental commissary, 2d Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Cavalry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. HENRIETTA ZENO, widow of Pierre Zeno, late of Company A, 4th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Cavalry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. DELIA PORTER, widow of Luke Porter, late of Company D, 98th Regiment, and Company F, 78th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. JOANNA GRAY, widow of David Gray, late of Company G, 27th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. CATHERINE C. WEST, widow of Handy West, late of Company A, 127th Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. MARGARET E. DUCKWORTH, widow of William A. Duckworth, late of Company G, Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and 2d lieutenant, Company K, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. MARY MILLER, widow of Christopher Miller, late of Company I, 61st Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

MRS. FLORENCE I. STEELE, widow of George W. Steele, late of Company I, 61st Regiment, United States Colored Volunteer Infantry, a pension of \$30 a month.

# Soldiers - 1937

## In World War.

Winterhaven, Fla., ~~Chlor~~  
May 28, 1937

### White Service Men Do Honor to Negro Soldier At Committal Service

For the first time in the history of this community, white members of the Frierson-Nichol Post No. 8 of the American Legion formed a firing squad to do honor to the memory of a colored ex-service man when five of the members of this post officiated at the last rites for Alfred Chambers, 39, at Florence Villa yesterday afternoon. Chambers, a native of North Carolina who had served with distinction in the A. E. F. in France during the World war, succumbed to the ravages of a year's illness and was buried from the Church of God by Faith, with the Rev. Boone, pastor, in charge and the Rev. Henry of Lake Alfred preaching the sermon.

After the service at the church, the last rites were conducted in the negro cemetery at the Villa, where the squad fired the salute and taps were sounded. Members of the squad were C. M. Fields, A. F. Swift, Ted Reilly and R. W. Cater and Arthur Layton sounded taps.

Chambers, who is survived by his wife, had lived here about 12 years and was one of the most highly respected negroes in the community, being widely known and well liked by the white population.

Soldiers - 1937

Monuments and Other Commemorations.

# Name Square In Cleveland For Colonel Young

faithful to the call of duty, he  
died a victim of jungle fever."

Memory of Valiant Son  
Of Ohio Is Honored  
By City Council.

LAWRENCE PAYNE IS  
ORDINANCE SPONSOR

B u s y Intersection Of  
Prospect-Carnegie Is  
Site of Square.

The illustrious memory of the late Colonel Charles Young will be honored in Cleveland through the foresight and vision of Councilman Lawrence O. Payne of the Eleventh Ward, who sponsored the passage of an emergency ordinance Monday night in City Council designating the triangle bounded by Prospect Ave., Carnegie Ave., and East 46th St. as "Colonel Charles Young Square."

The ordinance, which was unanimously passed, sets up that the triangle be "appropriately marked, beautified and maintained as a memorial to the valor and patriotism of the American soldiers of Negro blood of this community and that the Square be dedicated with a fitting ceremony upon a day to be proclaimed by the mayor."

Payne, who is himself a veteran of the World War, and carries his perpetual limp as a memento of his wounds received in battle, pays tribute to the late Colonel Young in the ordinance which reads in part:

"WHEREAS, Colonel Charles Young was the first man of Negro blood to achieve the rank of colonel in the United States Army, a true and loyal soldier, ever

and his life and career as a citizen and a soldier is an inspiration to the youth of this community and an incentive to all citizens to true patriotism and a re-dedication to the principles of liberty on which this nation was founded, and

"WHEREAS, overcoming the obstacles of race prejudice and of social ostracism, he persevered through the arduous routine of West Point, and in the hard and exacting duties of a soldier, he bore himself blamelessly, and loyally daily in the eyes of all men without shame, without fear and with a great pride. He had God-given tact, he knew how not to offend and yet, how to keep a complete self-respect. He intruded nowhere, yet he asked all of the rights of his uniform and so compelled the respect of his associates that, be it set down to the credit of the Army, he obtained justice which he alone asked." and "WHEREAS, the distinguished military service of Colonel Charles Young to his country was supplemented by his service to the State of Ohio commencing in 1894 when he was appointed Inspector in Military Science and Tactics at Wilberforce University and subsequently as a member of the Ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the Spanish-American War, which services added lustre to the fame of this State and proved for all time the capability, patriotism, courage and high character of the Negro soldier, and

WHEREAS, denied the opportunity during the World War to lead his troops in the field because of alleged physical disability, he was sent to Liberia as military attaché, where his services already had won for him the Spingarn Medal and there it was that, as a true and loyal soldier, ever



Soldiers - 1937  
National Guard.

## Signal Honors For Race Given 8th's Officers

Colonel William J. Warfield, commanding the 8th Infantry, Ill., National Guard, was lately in receipt of a letter from the office of the Commanding General, 66th Brigade, directing that five officers from his command be detailed for brigade inspection of the 131st and 132nd Infantry.

The officers thus honored are: Major Homer P. Cooper, Capt. Benote H. Lee, Capt. Charles U. Turpin, 2nd Lieut. Nathaniel Freeman and Capt. M. J. Hutchinson. This is the first time Race members of National Guard have been used to inspect other units.

## Bill Would Establish Negro National Guard

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Senator A. Harry Moore, Democrat of New Jersey, introduced in the Senate last week a bill to provide for the establishment of one infantry battalion of Negro troops as a part of the National Guard of the State of New Jersey.

The sum of \$122,000 would be appropriated out of the Federal Treasury for equipping, maintaining and training the battalion.

## N. J. State Militia Gets Award for Excellence

NEWARK — Twenty-four medals for marksmanship, a cup for all-round squad excellence, and a medal for individual excellence, were awarded to persons making up Company A of the New Jersey State Militia, at a ceremony, which took place here February 12, at the

# New Jersey Senator Asks Set Up Of Race Infantry Battalion

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 22 — Senator A. Harry Moore, Democrat of New Jersey, introduced in the Senate last Tuesday a bill to provide for the establishment of one infantry battalion of Race troops as a part of the National Guard of the State of New Jersey.

The bill would authorize the President to establish in addition to all other units now established, one infantry battalion of Race troops as a part of the National Guard of New Jersey.

The sum of \$122,000 would be appropriated out of the Federal Treasury for equipping, maintaining and training the battalion when established by the President. Armory, 83 Sixteenth Avenue.

The squad representing the first platoon won the David Woody cup for all-round excellence, and Corporal Byrd, squad leader, received the award on behalf of his men. Private, First Class, Raymond J. Rounds of the Second Platoon won the Luke Dancy medal for individual efficiency.

Judges in the competition were Major Brown, battalion commander; Major Chauncey Hooper, and Major Wilmer Lucas of the 369th Infantry, New York National Guard. The visiting majors made the awards, assisted by Lieutenants Trott and Willette.

**Promotions**  
Private, First Class, Joseph H. West was promoted to the rank of corporal; and Private Blanks and Morse were promoted to privates, first class.

A silver bowl was presented to Captain Smith, former battalion commander, and Mrs. Smith, as a token from the battalion officers. Captain Berkley Mills of Princeton made the presentation speech.

**Guests**  
Among the guests present were David Woody and Luke Dancy, donors of the David Woody cup; Assistant Prosecutor Michael Breitkopf, Commissioner Reginald Parnell; Leo Reilly, coerm

in Commissioner Parnell's executive office; Melvin Johnson, Newark newspaperman; and Needham Roberts of East Orange, widely-known war hero.

The American Legion was represented by forty members of the Montclair Post in uniform, and a number of persons from the Newark Post of the American Legion.

## West Va. To Get National Guard Unit

(Special to Journal and Guide)

CHARLESTON, W. Va. — West Virginia will join the several other states with Negro units of the National Guard, as a result of the efforts of Fleming A. Jones, sole Negro member of the House of Delegates of the West Virginia legislature.

Delegate Jones, by securing the only amendment to the budget bill of the adjutant general of the state last week, won an appropriation of \$18,000 for the biennium to help establish the colored National Guard company.

The solon is reported to be the only member of his race to hold the chairmanship of an important state legislature committee.

He also prepared an amendment to the Mining License Bill, of which he is one of the co-sponsors, requiring the appointment of a Negro member to each of the five zone mining examining boards. Previously he had introduced a bill creating a 4-H camp for West Virginia Negroes.

Delegate Jones declared that these will be no discrimination whatsoever in matters dealing with the state's colored citizens, and that it is a policy of the Democratic majority, of which he is a member, to molest no appropriation for Negro institutions or programs.

He added Miss Denley Pittary of McDowell County to his office staff last week to serve as his secretary for \$10 per day.

Other states having Negro units of the National Guard include New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio. Pennsylvania has plans well underway for such a unit.

## MOUNTAINEER LEGISLATOR SCORES AGAIN

Delegate Fleming Jones  
Fights For Group

CHARLESTON, W. Va., March 12 — Last week Delegate Fleming A. Jones, sole Race member of the House of Delegates of West Virginia hit the bully eye in the West Virginia state house.

This time Jones scored by securing an appropriation of \$18,000 for the biennium to help establish a unit of the National Guard for Negroes in West Virginia. He secured the only amendment to the budget bill of the Adjutant General of the state.

**Adds Attache to Office**  
Last week Delegate Jones brought from McDowell county Miss Donley Pittard to serve as his \$10 per day secretary.

He also prepared an amendment to the Mining License bill of which he is one of the co-sponsors, requiring the appointment of a Race member to each of the five zone mining examining boards. Previously he introduced a bill creating a 4-H camp for members of the race in West Virginia.

## N. J. CHANGES NAME OF COLORED STATE MILITIA.

Newark, N. J. By act of the State Legislature just adjourned, the name of the colored

State militia was changed from the First Separate Battalion of the New Jersey State Militia to the New Jersey Guards, so as to avoid confusion that has maintained in military circles because of the other designation.

## Afro-American 6-19-37 Baltimore, Md. CALIFORNIA MAY GET NEGRO NAT'L GUARD

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — (A. N. P.) — California Negro citizens have high hopes for the passage of three bills pending before congress providing for the establishment of one infantry battalion of Negro troops as part of the California National Guard. The three measures authorizing the War department to establish the unit were introduced by Senator William G. McAdoo, Congressman Edward V. Izard and Congressman Thomas F. Rord.

The introduction of these bills are a direct result of intensive work done by a special committee composed of Baster S. Scruggs, chairman, Major Milton T. Dean, Capt. Beverly Dorsey, Lieut. Thomas E. Green, Lieut. A. Ray Henderson, Lieut. Vodrey Heary, Lieut. Leslie King, Capt. Frank A. Pearl, Capt. George M. Allen, Lieut. Cleveland Morrow, and Major Moody Staten. While this committee was drawn from the 92nd-93rd Division Officers' association, it also represented in its personnel the Benjamin J. Bowie Post No. 22k, American Legion, Spanish-American War Veterans, and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

# CALIFORNIANS WANT NEGRO GUARD UNIT

we in California cannot duplicate this fine record with a Negro organization."

## Action Follows Petition Seeking Representation

In Army

LOS ANGELES.—(NPB)

Word from Washington early this week assured Negro citizens that definite action is being taken to bring about the formation of a Negro unit of the California National Guard. At the present time, no Negro is a member of the state's armed forces.

Congressman John F. Dockweiler, a representative from the sixteenth California district, has been working on the movement for some time. He told of his progress in a letter.

The congressman's letter first told of the sustained battle to get action on committee reports submitted to the war department by the house of representatives, calling for the establishment of an Infantry Battalion of Negro troops as a part of the California National Guard, made recently in Washington.

### Recall Washington Troop

Representative Dockweiler, member of a pioneer California family renowned for their tolerance and belief in fair play, stated he had been in correspondence with the chief of staff of the war department in connection with the matter. His letter follows:

"I have asked the war department to submit to me their report to the committee on military affairs of the house of representatives, which was made on July 29, 1937," the letter read.

"I am making every possible effort to get the proper action in connection with this matter and while I have not yet secured all the information I need from the war department, I have hopes that I may get some action soon," he continued.

A postscript to the letter called attention to the splendid record achieved by the Negro unit of the Washington, D. C., National guard, and read:

"The Negro unit of the Washington, D. C., national guard is nationally recognized as a model national guard and has won a fine reputation. I see no reason why



Soldiers-1937

Officers.

# West Point Is OK, Cadet Fowler Says

By ELLIOTT FREEMAN  
(Special to the AFRO)

BOSTON. — Taking the lime-light, Cadet James D. Fowler, only colored West Pointer, was vociferously applauded by thousands, representing all races, who lined the route of march from the Exeter Street station to Park Street subway, Saturday morning, preceding the Harvard-Army football game held at Harvard Stadium.

Granting his only interview since he entered West Point, Cadet Fowler declared that he was perfectly contented with the treatment accorded him by his fellow cadets and superiors.

## No Discrimination

"There has never been the least bit of a sign of discrimination or racial prejudice by other cadets or superiors," he said.

"The truth of the matter," he added, "is that the other cadets actually put themselves out in aiding me."

He was given the special privilege of selecting his own room mates or taking a single room, the latter which he selected, he said, was one of the best in the barracks.

Cadet Fowler, a modest, unassuming and handsome lad, is also very popular with all of his class mates, which was demonstrated when he was recognized by his fellow cadets that he came upon throughout the city during the day, with the utmost courtesy and respect, not only him but his escorts and others included in the party.

## Training Rigid

The training and discipline are very rigid, he said, but it is found to be so not only with him but with all plebes. He smiled when asked whether his instructors were any different in their actions toward him from those

of his former colored professors, he quickly replied that they were no more impartial than his professors at Howard University.

Cadet Fowler, who was a member of his company's intramural relay team, admits that the hardest months are the first few, which is more or less a period of adjustment.

He was appointed to West Point by Congressman Arthur Mitchell of Illinois; a native of Washington, D.C., a graduate of Dunbar High School, serving as major in the high school cadets. He graduated from Howard University, last year, where he was president of the student council, major of the R.O.T.C. unit, and a member of the varsity football and track teams. He is a Kappa Alpha Psi.

He was officially welcomed to Boston in the Harvard yards by O. Philip Snowden, his class mate at Howard; Casper A. Ferguson, of Boston College, '37; John France, Lincoln '37; and Elwood McKinney of Harvard. Cadet Fowler was the guest of honor at a banquet.

# Sgt. J. S. Contee Retires Twice From U. S. Service

Spent 47 Years in Government Work, 30 in  
Army and 17 in Civil Service  
Position

By MRS. IDA B. KIMBERLING

LEAVENWORTH, K a s.  
—Sgt. James S. Contee, who was retired from the United States Civil Service last month, has the distinction of

being the only ex-soldier in this section of the country who has been retired twice from U. S. government service.

Sgt. Contee started his career at the age of 19 by enlisting in the U. S. army on August 3, 1891. He saw service in many states, fighting in the battle of Wounded Knee, South Dakota, against the Sioux Indians; the battle of San Juan, Cuba, during the Spanish-American conflict and in many battles and skirmishes in the Philippines during the insurrection.

The sergeant crossed the Pacific Ocean nine times during his enlistment in the army. He visited Japan and China making many friends in the Orient.

Contee sailed from Manila on January 18, 1919, and was retired from the army at Fort McDowell Cal., on February 14, 1919. After his retirement, he came to Leavenworth where he established his home.

## Enters Civil Service

Not content with a life of idleness after 30 years of service in the army, Sgt. Contee began to look about for some other vocation.

Again he chose government work, obtaining a Civil Service appointment on March 24, 1921. He was assigned to the department of justice and stationed as a guard at the United States penitentiary at Leavenworth.

During his service at the prison, Sergeant Contee was assigned to many difficult and responsible posts. He always performed his duties to the complete satisfaction of all officers of the institution and received the personal recommendations of Warden White, Warden Zerbst and others, all of whom attest to his efficient service.

On October 1, 1927, Sergeant Contee was assigned to the "C" cell house where he had charge of all prisoners during the day. He was responsible for the discipline of the prisoners and for the ordering of supplies.



SGT. JAMES S. CONTEE

When "C" cell house was selected in September, 1933, to be the "segregated cell house" for incorrigible prisoners, Contee was the first officer selected for this responsible post.

Soldiers-1937  
Officers.

# Army Has Had 4 Grads; Navy None

CANDIDATES FOR U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY

Names	State from	Date	Rejected at Initiatory Examination	Admitted	Rejected for Deficiency	In attendance
		M. D. Y.				
James W. Smith	S.C.	5 31 70		1	1	4 yrs.
Michael Howard	Miss.	5 30 70	1			
Henry A. Napier	Tenn.	5 26 71		1	1	1 yr.
James E. Rector	Ark.	8 29 71	1			
Thomas V. R. Gibbs	Fla.	5 27 72		1	1	6 mos.
Henry O. Flipper	Ga.	5 20 73		1		4 yrs. G.
John W. Williams	Va.	5 24 73		1	1	6 mos.
William H. Werles	Miss.	5 26 74	1			
William H. Jarvis	Mass.	5 21 74	1			
William H. White	S.C.	5 25 74	1			
Johnson Whittaker	S.C.	8 25 76		1	1	4 yrs
Charles A. Mirmie	N.Y.	8 28 77		1	1	6 mos.
John Alexander	Ohio	6 12 83		1		Graduate
Charles Young	Ohio	6 10 84		1		Graduate
Julius Mitchell	S.C.	8 28 84	1			
Daniel C. Lugg	N.C.	6 12 84	1			
Robert Wilkinson	S.C.	6 13 84	1			
W. T. Andrews	S.C.	6 11 85		1	1	6 mos.
William A. Hare	Ohio	6 12 85		1	1	6 mos.
Henry W. Holloday	S.C.	8 27 86		1	1	4 mos.
John B. Alexander	Ohio	6 14 18		1	1	6 mos.
Alonzo Parham	Ill.	7 1 29		1	1	6 mos.
Benjamin O. Davis	Ill.	7 1 32		1		Graduate
Felix J. Kirkpatrick	Ill.	7 1 35		1	1	6 mos.

NOTE: M=Month

D=Day

Y=Year  
(By ANP)

WASHINGTON

Fourteen colored youths have been appointed and four have graduated from West Point Military Academy and served their country with honor while the Naval Academy has never had a single one to finish. The following table shows the names of the appointees and how they fared:

First Graduate Ousted

Henry Ossian Flipper, dismissed from the military service, June 30, 1882, was born in Georgia in 1856, and appointed to U.S. Military Academy in 1875. He was graduated in 1877, appointed second lieutenant in Tenth Cavalry, serving as such until court-martialed in 1882.

\*Holloday not known positively to be of colored descent: other colored appointees have entered and graduated as white. Henry O. Flipper, dismissed from the military service, June 30, 1882, was born in Georgia in 1856, and appointed to U.S. Military Academy in 1875. He was graduated in 1877, appointed second lieutenant in Tenth Cavalry, serving as such until court-martialed in 1882.

He became a civil and mining engineer in Arizona and New Mexico and in Old Mexico; compiled and translated Mexican mining and land laws for Department of Justice.

He became a G-Man, special agent of Department of Justice in 1893, and continued as such until 1901, after which he went to Mexico and became identified with various mining enterprises as an engineer.

Still living, Mr. Flipper makes occasional trips to Washington. He was Secretary Fall's right hand man in the Harding Cabinet.

Promoted from the Ranks

Among the nation's outstanding

colored officers who won promotions from the ranks and achieved wide prominence without attending West Point, are the following: Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Cavalry, professor of military science and tactics at Tuskegee, was born in Washington, D.C., July 1, 1877; served as first lieutenant in 8th U.S. Volunteer Infantry from July 21, 1898, until May 1899.

He enlisted in Regular Army and served as private and corporal, Troop 1, 9th Cavalry, and as squadron sergeant-major, 9th Cavalry, from June 14, 1899 to May 18, 1901. He was appointed second lieutenant of Cavalry May 1901; promoted to first lieutenant, May 1905; to captain, December 24, 1915.

He was promoted to major August 15, 1917; to lieutenant colonel, National Army, August 17, 1918, and Regular Army, July 1, 1920; promoted to colonel February 18, 1930. He is still in active service.

Two Have Retired

Lt. Col. John E. Green, who now resides at 559 Kenmore Avenue, Oakland, Cal., was born in Tennessee, April 7, 1878; served as private and corporal in Twenty-fourth Infantry, from April, 1899, to July, 1901.

Appointed second Lt. July, 1901, promoted to first Lt., July 1907, and to captain, July 1, 1916. He became temporary major, August 5, 1917, and two days later a lieutenant-colonel of the emergency army, holding rank till February, 1920; became major of Regular Army on July 1, 1920, and promoted to lieutenant-colonel in regular service on November 3, 1925. He retired at his own request, November 15, 1929, after thirty years' service.

Major John R. Lynch, 4028 South Parkway, Chicago, was born in Louisiana, September 10, 1847. Temporary paymaster in Spanish War with rank of major, serving from June 29, 1898, to May 13, 1901. Became captain and paymaster in Regular Army in May 1901, and was promoted to major on September 13, 1906. He retired on September 11, 1911.



H. O. FLIPPER

## Appointed to West Point

PHILADELPHIA.—(ANS) —For the first time in the history of Philadelphia, two Negro youths, William A. Lewis and Howard Woodrow Hill, were appointed to the United States Military Academy at West Point last week.

The appointments were made by Congressman J. Burwood Daly of the fourth congressional district who also named two white boys as candidates to enter the academy.

Lewis, a sophomore in the engineering school at the University of Pennsylvania, was named as the nominee while Hill is an alternate.

Lewis is the son of J. Arthur Lewis, former school teacher in Elizabeth City, N. C., and the nephew of C. Perry White, North Philadelphia real estate broker and proprietor of a hotel.

The nominee is a graduate of the Atlantic City high school in 1935. He is a member of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity.

Hill, a graduate in the class of 1935 from Central high school, is a native of Claremont, Va. He is employed in the Union restaurant in the North Philadelphia station.

Hill has lived here since 1930 when he came from Newport News. He studied one year at the Cheney State Teachers' college.

Both Lewis and Hill have passed the preliminary medical examinations at the United States Custom House building here. They will go to New York in March to undergo a rigid physical and mental examination. If they pass these, both the candidate and the alternate will be eligible to take the West Point entrance examinations.

## WEST POINT CANDIDATE

## FLUNKS PHYSICAL TEST

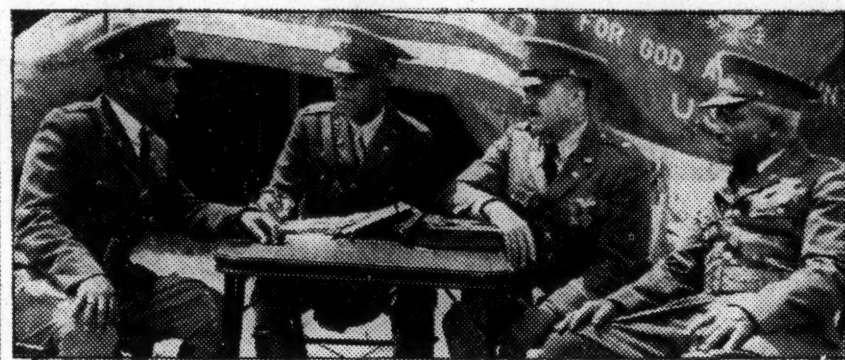
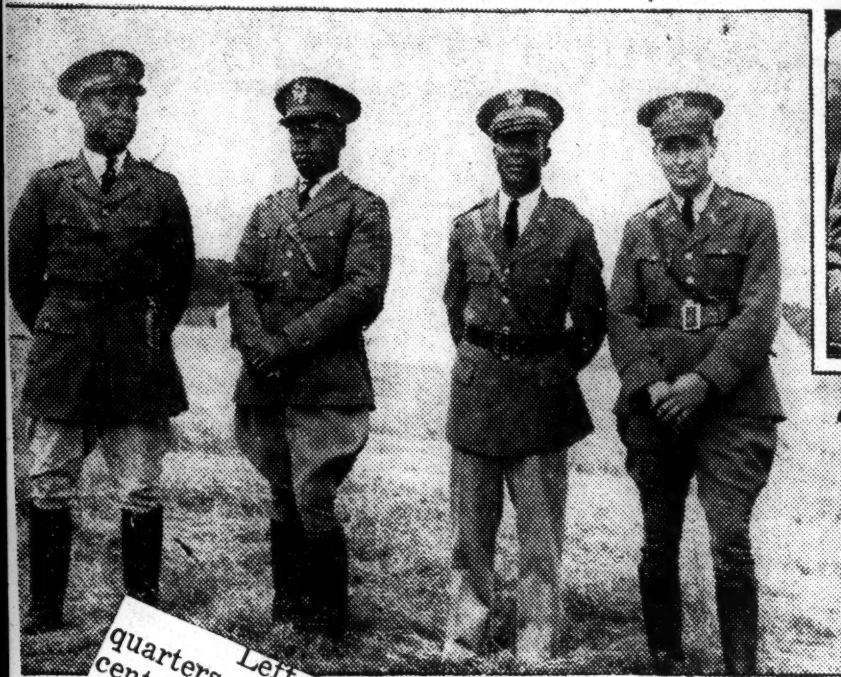
Charles Hunter, 20, son of James B. Hunter, Armstrong High School teacher, failed to pass his physical examination for entrance to West Point, Representative Arthur W. Mitchell told the AFRO this week.

Mr. Mitchell has appointed sixteen boys to West Point since he has been in Congress, he said. Approximately half of these were white. Of the total, all failed in the physical examination except two, one of whom was white.

Mr. Mitchell said he was informed by James Fowler's mother and father that their son advised them that he was getting along well at West Point. Fowler, a Mitchell appointee, entered recently.



# UNITS OF MILITARY ORDER OF GUARDS SHARPEN UP AT ANNUAL DRILLS IN MICHIGAN



Left: Four of the Michigan officers, members of the Military Order of Guards, whose activities were praised by Major General Saxton, shown shortly after leaving headquarters tent. Left to right: Col. G. N. Edwards, organizer and commander of the Fourth Battalion; Major Remsone, Lieut. Woodruff and Lieut. "Spike" Anderson. Top center: Discussing plans for a battle. Bottom center: Lieut. Remsone and Mildred Howard. Seated, left to right: Commander, General Frank Stewart; Adjutant, General Genus; Major Gen. Myrtle Dorsey, Lieut. General Jordan. Bottom center: Major Smith explains requisites for operation of airplane. Left to right: Mercedes Ferguson, Col. Edwards direct a squad of guardsmen and four cadets (front row) in rifle drill before visiting target range at Camp Stewart. Left to right, front row: Privates L. Covington, R. Gougis, H. Gougis, E. Smith. Second row: W. Wilson, J. Hill, C. Wilson, J. Johnson, M. Gordon. Standing: Lieut. Jordan, Privates O. Chisolm, W. Howes, G. Cason, A. Warren and Lieut. Johnson.—All photos by Courier photographer, Langford P. James.



Officers.

# OK's Davises

By CLARENCE MITCHELL

**FORT BENNING, Ga.**—A snug two-story house on McIvy Avenue here is the military residence of Lieut. and Mrs. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., during their stay in Georgia.

Anyone expecting walls and frowning cannon to greet him as he enters the government



**Lieutenant Davis**

High powered automobiles, smartly dressed women, officers in faultless attire and beautiful homes are everywhere. The home of Lieut. Davis is on the corner of one of the main thoroughfares.

His name, in simple black letters, is on the doorstep — as are the names of all Benning residents. The house itself is not as imposing as many of the structures inhabited by majors, colonels, and other higher officers but it is the exact counterpart of that of a white lieutenant who is his immediate neighbor.

By the way, getting in-  
to Benning is awkward.  
Out of Atlanta there are  
only two trains a day and  
neither of them goes to

Inquiry concerning the lieutenant from headquarters or from the hosts of privates who are seen on the grounds always brings the prompt rejoinder, "Oh, you mean the ~~Colonel~~ lieutenant from West Point." The smile which follows the mention of his name is always genial and appreciative.

**Two Blocks Over**  
The wife of one of the white officers, questioned concerning the exact whereabouts of the Davis home as she was leaving her own house said, "It's just two blocks over—do you know him very well?"

On receiving a negative reply she added, "Well, you will find them splendid people; they're my neighbors and I couldn't want better people."

Enlisted men, however, say that the West Point graduate's social standing is not yet clear. Many are waiting to see how far Uncle Sam's men in uniform are going to be hindered in their relations with the new brother officer in the Georgia atmosphere.

Mrs. Davis is referred to as "the lieutenant's missus," by men who work around the neighborhood. Apparently, both the officer and his wife have gotten off on the right foot in the estimation of everyone.

Another installment of the Davises' life at Fort Benning, next week.

# MAJ. YORK RETIRES

FROM U.S. ARMY

Major Edward L. York, profes-  
sor of military science and tactics  
in the senior high schools, will  
retire from the army December  
11 after 39 years of military ser-  
vice.

For the past few years Major  
York was detailed to Armstrong  
High School, where he taught in  
the cadet corps. He was notified  
by the War Department last Aug-  
ust that he was eligible for retire-  
ment and instructed to take all of  
his accumulated leave.

Major York, with his family, left a few weeks ago for Los Angeles, his home, where his children were enrolled in the schools of that city. The War Department is expected to name his successor at Armstrong this week.

A black and white photograph of a woman with short, dark hair, wearing a light-colored blazer and a patterned scarf. She is looking upwards and to the left with a slight smile. The background is dark and indistinct.

MRS. B. O. DAVIS  
"The Missus"

The former Agatha Scott  
of New Haven,  
Conn.

# LOCALS BACK FROM C M T C AT FORT RILEY

## St. Louisans Score Big Success At Camp In Kansas

Another C.M.T. Camp for Colored youth has just concluded at Fort Riley Kansas. This marks the sixth year of C.M.T. C. training.

In a letter from the Commanding General Office at Fort Riley, Kansas, dated July 21st 1937, addressed to Alexander E. Evans, Service Officer, Jake Linde Post No. 107 the following statement is made: 'There is no difference at all in the operation, schedule of training, etc. of this camp from any other

The boys are trained in Infantry Drill and taught the privileges, duties and responsibilities of American citizenship.

Athletics play a big part in the afternoon schedules, and good sportsmanship is stressed in all forms of athletic activities.

**Win Honors**  
The best Basic of first year student in the entire country was Daniel Foder, 2555 Washington Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

The best Red or second year student was Corp. William Brown, 4239 Cote Brillante avenue, St. Louis, Mo.

The best white or third year student was Herbert Preston Des Moines, Iowa.

The best blue or fourth year student was Fredrich A. Smith, 1016 E. Burlington, Iowa City, Iowa.

The winner of the track meet was Henry Clay, 4528 Garfield avenue, St. Louis, Mo.

The runner up in the trade was Murry Whitning, Leavenworth, Kansas.

The baseball team was made up of the following boys: John Brown, John Ware, Arth Washington, William Lew James Green, Excell William Paul Malone, Murry Whitn

The outstanding boxers were Edward Gibbons, Earl Moon

## Two Army Officers Here Attending War Department Meeting

First Lieutenant J. R. C. Pinn of the U.S. Army, of this city, but stationed at Yorktown, Va., in the CCC camp was here this week attending the chaplains' conference held at the War Department. The conference, Lieutenant Pinn said, will be instructions to the various chaplains of nearby CCC camps. Lieutenant Pinn is the son of the Rev. Mr. Pinn, of this city.

First Lieutenant William Marshall, stationed at Gettysburg, Pa. was also here attending the conference.

Stenson, Willie H.; Sgt., Hart, Emmett; Wesley, Pvt., Jefferson, Theo.; Pvt., William, Kates, Albert; Pvt., Knights, James; Pvt. Lavalle, Lawrence; t. Brier, Pvt., Overby, Halline; Corp., Brown, Jas.; Paschall, William; Pvt., Phil-  
m; 2nd lips, Joe; Corp., Reeves, George; Pvt. and Lieut., Pvt., Sanders, William; Pvt., Schols, O3-Stringer, Robert; Pvt., Sykes, Reuben, Crystal; Pvt., Wadlington, El-  
more; Pvt., dred; Corp., Washington, Arthur; Corp., Gil-  
vt., Gil-Corp., Watson, Edward; Corp., t., Green, Weathers, Alonzo; Corp., Wil-  
Gregory, Iiams, Theopolus; Corp., White Hammons, Allen J.; Corp., White, Oscar.

COMPANY B— Pvt. Eugene; 1st Lieut., Brown, William Corp., Brown, William Corp., Carter, Theo.; 2nd Lieut., Cartwright, Mark, Wilbert; Pvt., Echbourn, Lee; Sgt., Fraser, J. R.; Pvt., Gaines, Velmor, J. B.; Sgt., Gibbons, Edward; Pvt., Ham, Norman; Color Sgt., James H.; 2nd Lieut., Williams G.; Corp., Williams G.

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Henry; Colem  
Crawford, Wilb  
cell, Jr.; Harr  
Wilson; Lee,  
lone, Paul;  
Murray, Stacy



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There are scores of children, innumerable house servants, and even traffic regulations which cause violators of speed limits to land in the hands of military police.

MAJ. YORK RETIRES  
Benning, next week.

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the fort. It is necessary to go to Columbus first and then catch a not too frequent bus or hire a car to drive out to Benning. A tree shaded lawn, a few grass worn thin in places, and a bench face the residence. From his front, the lieutenant may see a broad sweep of the United States property on which grows hundreds of Georgia pines.

He is one of the commanding officers of Company F of the Twenty-fourth Infantry. Military police give the unit the reputation of being one of the best disciplined and drilled companies in the fort.

Major York, with his family, left a few weeks ago for Los Angeles, where his children were enrolled in the schools of that city. The War Department is expected to name his successor at Arm-

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The former Agatha Scott of New Haven, Conn.

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- The following is a list of St. Louis boys and the rank which they obtain at camp.
- COMPANY A—Baker, Floyd; Bratton, Leon; Brown, Charles, Jr.; Brown, John Charles; Clay, Henry; Coleman, Charles B.; Crawford, Wilbur; Gilleylen, Excell, Jr.; Harrel, Thomas; Knowlton, Lee; Willie Wm.; Malone, Paul; Miller, Edward; Murray, Stacy, Jr.; Riley, Robert; Stenson, Willie; Wesley, Pvt.; White, Archie; William, Kates; James; White, Lawrence; Overby, Halline; Corp., Phil; Paschall, William; Corp., George; Sanders, William; Corp., Sykes; Stringer, Robert; Corp., El; Wadlington, Arthur; Corp., Edward; Corp., Alonzo; Corp., White; Hammons, Allen J.; Corp., Oscar.



## WANT MORE NEGROES IN C.M.T.C.

At its recent meeting at St. Joseph, Mo., the American Legion of the state of Missouri adopted a resolution calling on the War Department to provide for one thousand and Negro youths to be trained annually, in the Citizens Military Training Camps. This resolution was prepared and presented by Alexander E. Evans, of Jake Linder Post No. 107, St. Louis.

Just how far such a resolution will go toward securing its aim, we do not predict, but as to the logic and reasonableness of its demand, we fully agree, that there should be at least one thousand Negro trainees in the Citizens Military Training Camps each summer in the Seventh Army Corps Area.

We reason that if this training is good for white boys, then undoubtedly, it is good for the Negro youths. Aside from the military training, there is some remuneration for the boys or their families, which the Negro youths and their families need just as badly as the white boys and their people. The educational value of such training cannot be estimated, because no boy can go to one of these camps and return without a broader vision, not only of what the Army offers, but of his duties as a citizen and civic leader in his community.

We noticed that there were more than two thousand white youths of the Seventh Corps area receiving this training at Jefferson Barracks, while only one hundred and twenty Negroes, in the same area, were receiving such training. This we think, is unfair to the Negro race in this country.

In asking for one thousand trainees for this area, it should be remembered that the present training camp at Fort Riley, Kansas is the only one in the United States provided by the War Department for Negro trainees; while there are nine corps areas in the United States which serve white youths. In this connection we might suggest that this matter can easily be worked out on an equitable basis, by sending trainees there from other corps areas.

## SOLDIER TO RETIRE AFTER 39 YEARS IN THE U.S. ARMY

FORT HUMPHREYS, D.C.—Staff Sergeant Byrd Smith, U.S. Army, stationed at the Army War College here, retired September 30, after more than thirty-nine years of service in a military and civil capacity.

He enlisted for the Spanish-American War, July 1, 1898, serving in the Eighth U.S. Infantry. He later served in the Twenty-fourth Infantry, and the Army Medical Corps.

Sergeant Smith served the U.S. Government in various capacities for several years in the Philippine Islands.

## MANY MEDALS NOW ON A. & T. FACULTY



Sgt. George H. Wanton, one of the most decorated men in the American Legion, He showed up at the convention in New York last week with five service medals and four Legion awards, in addition to the Congressional Medal of Honor. He has fought in the Spanish-American war, the Filipino insurrection, the Mexican uprising and the World war.

Announcement was made last week by the A. and T. College authorities to the effect the Major Robert L. Campbell of Greensboro, N.C., has been added to the Military Staff and will occupy the position of Professor Military Science and Tactics. Major Campbell has an enviable military record, having volunteered to serve in both the Spanish-American War and the World War. He was commissioned a first Lieutenant at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, and assigned to the 368 Infantry and division; serving with Battalion staff of Major B. F. Norris as Assistant, Liaison and Munitions officer. He was decorated for the display of Extraordinary Heroism in action near Binnarville, France (in the Argonne) in September, 1918. For his acts of bravery in the Argonne Drive during September and Oct., 1918, and for the excellent manner in which he maintained Liaison service within the battalion at a great personal risk, he was promoted to the grade of Captain of Infantry on the field. He was later awarded the French Croix-de-Guerre with three stars, the American D. S. C., and seven American service medals.

DR. L. T. WRIGHT NOW  
LT.-COL. IN RESERVE  
The N.A.A.C.P.

New York, Oct. 30.—Dr. Louis T. Wright, who has had a commission as major in the reserve army medical corps was promoted recently to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the medical corps. Dr. Wright was a captain in the medical corps of the A.E.F. during the war.



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His entire service, both civil and military, has been without blemish. He will leave the service with the esteem of his superior officers and, with the best wishes of his enlisted associates.

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Announcement was made last week by the A. and T. College

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Press Release of the N.A.A.C.P.  
10-29-37

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Soldiers - 1937

Organization of

## Heads Post

### In Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Jan. 29.—(By Continental Press)—At a recent election of Johnny Baker Post No. 291 of the American Legion, Teta Burt, well known postal employee and overseas veteran, was named commander for the new year. The new commander is quite active in civic and



social affairs of the state of Minnesota, particularly in American Legion circles. There has already been increased interest, life and development within the post since his election.

The Johnny Baker post was organized twelve years ago. Under Burt's administration it has enjoyed its most phenomenal success. The highest membership previously was fifty-four. At present there are 63 veterans on the membership roll. It is Burt's plan, so he says, to induce his corps of officers to institute a campaign for a "100 per cent veteran membership in the Legion." The new commander returned from Brainerd last week where he attended the American Legion State Convention as a bonafide delegate representing his post.

Henderson, N. C. Dispatch  
May 27, 1937

## NEGRO LEGIONNAIRES WILL HONOR DEAD

### Joint Memorial Services Sunday for Henderson and Oxford Posts

The Bullock-Fisher Post 176 American Legion, local Negro post, and the Hester-Crews Post 166, of Oxford, will have their memorial day service jointly Sunday, May 30, in Henderson at 2:30 o'clock and in Oxford at 4:30 p. m.

The Charles T. Norwood post 157, of Raleigh, will furnish music for the parade with their drums and bugle corps. Vice commander of the department of North Carolina, J. W. Smith, will deliver a memorial address at Blacknall's cemetery.

All veterans of all wars were asked to join in making the service a success, and all friends were asked to bring or send flowers to decorate the graves.

The parade will form at the American Legion quarters on Montgomery street and proceed out Montgomery street to the cemetery.

Oxford, N. C. Ledger  
May 28, 1937

## Colored Legion Post Plans Big Time On Sunday

### Memorial Day Service to Be Conducted Here Sunday With Parade

By JAMES E. GREGORY  
(Commander Hester-Crews Post)

The annual Memorial Day services, sponsored here by the Hester-Crews post of the American Legion, colored unit, will be held Sunday with Henderson and Raleigh legionnaires joining with the members of the colored post here.

Rev. H. S. Davis, principal of Mary Potter School, will deliver the memorial address on Sunday

morning at 11 o'clock at Timothy Darling Presbyterian church.

In the afternoon at 2:15, members of the Hester-Crews post, the

Charles T. Norwood Post of Raleigh and its drum and bugle corps will join Fisher-Bullock Post of Henderson for a Memorial Day Service and parade.

At 4:15, the group will return to Oxford and enter parade formation on Williamsboro street and march to the Oxford colored graded school led by the Charles T. Norwood post drum and bugle corps, followed by Fisher-Bullock post and Hester-Crews post. At the colored school, a flag and pole presentation will take place.

Rev. J. W. Smith, department vice-commander of the American Legion, together with the members of the board of education, will be the principal speakers at the flag and flag pole presentation.

Thereafter, the parade will continue to the cemetery where services will be held for the Departed Comrades and salutes fired.

The real secret of success is working hard, being honest and just happening to be on the spot when good luck breaks.

Chattanooga, Tenn. News  
June 21, 1937

### Negro Legionnaires Meet

Representatives of colored American Legion posts throughout the State met Sunday in Nashville in their semiannual caucus to make plans for their State program to be presented to the State meeting for ratification.

Chattanooga legionnaires attending were W. M. Hixson, commander of Givens Freeman Davis Post; Jesse Barrom, service officer; Joe Rosser, Deedia Wheeler and H. Logue.

Chapel Hill, N. C. Weekly  
July 2, 1937

### Durham Expects Legion

World War Veterans To Hold State  
Convention There This Month

Durham is getting ready to entertain the state convention of the American Legion this month. Plans for an elaborate program are being made under

the direction of Dr. D. R. Perry, state vice-commander and general convention chairman.

There will be drum and bugle corps drills and various competitive events in the Duke stadium, dances, shows, and other forms of entertainment. Salvation Army dugouts will offer free coffee and doughnuts to the veterans.

The Washington Duke Hotel will be the convention headquarters, and Negro veterans will meet in the Biltmore Hotel. Both groups will take part in the memorial service, music for which will be provided by Durham Negroes.

An attendance of 5,000 is expected by the chairman of the housing committee, Frank Pier-son, secretary of the Durham Chamber of Commerce.

Durham, N. C. Sun  
July 5, 1937

### NEGRO LEGION POST TO NAME OFFICERS TONIGHT

Election of officers and formulation of plans for the state convention will be the principal matters to be considered at a meeting of the John McLean post of the American Legion Tuesday night at 8 o'clock. The meeting will be one of much importance, post officials state.

The Negro division of the American Legion will hold its own convention program July 25-27

Griffin, Ga. News  
July 19, 1937

### COLORED WAR VETS WILL MEET FRIDAY

The Charles Young post, colored World War veterans of Griffin and Spalding county, will have their regular meeting Friday night at 3:30 o'clock. The meeting will be held at Crockett Hall on North Fifth street. Commander L. W. Strickland invites all members to be present.

Chattanooga, Tenn. Daily Times  
July 30, 1937

### HIXSON IS RE-ELECTED BY NEGRO LEGIONNAIRES

W. McKinley Hixson was re-elected commander of the colored Givens Freeman Davis American Legion post Wednesday night at a meeting in the Memorial auditorium.

Other officers are Jack Crawley, John Adams and Charles Lockhart, vice-commanders; Joe Rosser, adjutant; William J. Harris, assistant adjutant; Henry Logue, finance officer; Malley Ruffin, sergeant-at-arms; Greenbury Gresham, chaplain; Jesse Barrom, service officer and historian, and William Harris, assistant service officer.

Selection of delegates and instructions for the state meeting in August were postponed until the next meeting.

Many industries in Germany are operating at capacity, but concerns hesitate to assume the present heavy expense of expanding.



# Negro Legion Organization Similar To That Of Other

**Aims And Ideals Are Same And Organization Is Providing Aid For Its Members—Came Into Being At Fayetteville In 1924**

The aims and ideals of the Negro division of the American Legion are the same as those of the white division. Working through national headquarters, Division "B" is striving to provide aid for members of their race who saw service in the World War.

Division "B," although its membership is comparatively small, has done much toward aiding destitute veterans and their children.

Sixteen years ago, the first Negro post of the Legion in this state was organized in Wilmington. The first state vice commander was Lieut. Lawrence A. Oxley. He was succeeded by Charles T. Norwood of Post No. 157 at Raleigh. These men soon had well organized posts. At this point in the progress of the Negro Legion, Division "B" had not yet been organized. In 1924 delegates were sent to the state convention in Fayetteville and Division "B" was organized there.

The Weaver McLean post of Durham has a membership of 48. W. H. Wilson was the first commander and was succeeded by N. A. Brewington. So far an auxiliary has not been formed nor has a junior Legion group but efforts are being made to do so in the near future.

The local post has worked long and hard in preparing the program for the convention here. The result is, the officials believe, one that will stamp the Durham convention as the biggest and best record for the division.

Convention headquarters will be established in the old hosiery mill on East Pettugrew street where the registration of delegates and other visitors will be done.

The program provides for the participation of the Negro veterans with the white Legionnaires in the Sunday night memorial service in Trinity Methodist church. The Durham male chorus, directed by Isidor Oglesby, will provide music for the service.

Monday morning the division members will participate in the joint program to be held in the city armory-auditorium. Following the joint meeting Division "B" will hold its first business session. At 5 o'clock the Negro veterans will participate in the big street parade and at 8 o'clock in the evening the drum and bugle corps of the division will participate in the com-

Chattanooga, Tenn. News  
August 20, 1937

## Colored Legion

The colored post 171 of the American Legion will be represented at the State meeting this month by W. McKinley Hixson, commander, William J. Harris, adjutant and C. H. Griscom. All Chattanooga Negro representatives are members of the Negro State caucus which shapes programs for their posts, and meets in Nashville also, during the convention.

petitive drills at Duke university's football stadium. The dance will be held at 10 o'clock at the Banner warehouse with admission being free for the Legionnaires.

Tuesday morning the final business session will be held and at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon the Weaver McLean post will be host to the visitors at a barbecue to be served in the old hosiery mill.

The sessions of the woman's auxiliary of Division "B" will be held in the White Rock Baptist church.

## 92nd DIVISION REUNION

**THE FORTHCOMING** annual convention of the American Legion in New York next month is of special interest to Negroes, as the 92nd Division will hold a reunion and Negro war veterans from all parts of the country are expected to be in attendance.

The 92nd Division, under Col. Moss, was one of the principal combatant units of Negro troops in active service. They with the 93rd Division made up the bulk of Negro soldiers who went overseas.

The record these soldiers made should be a source of pride to Negroes everywhere, and local posts of the American Legion are planning to make the reunion with their comrades-in-arms from other sections of the country an outstanding event. Other civic-minded groups, fraternal and religious organizations should join with the war veterans in their program for the occasion, so that younger generations may know of the accomplishments of these soldiers.

For one of the ways by which we can get a square deal from those who run the U. S., is to keep before them the debt of gratitude this country owes its Negro soldiers. Let's get together and give the Old 92nd a rousing welcome.

Veterans of the 369th Infantry, New York National Guard, (the old 15th) which saw more actual fighting than any other Negro troops, will also join in the welcome.

Danville, Va., Bee  
August 23, 1937

## Vice-Commander



Wiley A. Hall, colored, of Richmond, department vice commander at large.

## Negro Post Cooperating

**All Members Urged to Attend Memorial Services At Armory Tonight**

Members of Waldon France Post No. 29, Negro Legion organization were urged last night by their commander, J. M. Cunningham, to attend the Memorial Services which will open the 16th annual convention of the Virginia Department, American Legion, at the city armory tonight at eight o'clock. A special section will be reserved for Negro Legionnaires, and they will have a part in the service.

The local Negro post is prepared to accommodate several hundred delegates, and will take part in the convention activities. One of the features of the program for Negroes will be dances to be held at Farmers Warehouse on Monday and Tuesday night, beginning at nine o'clock.

"Little Juanita and Her Syncopators" will furnish the music. This is a well known Negro orchestra.

Waldon France Post has had a conspicuous share in Legion activities since its organization. It was organized with 25 charter members. The post was named in honor of Waldon France, the first Danville Negro soldier to be killed in battle during the

World War. The post has been active in promoting the welfare of Negro veterans since it was formed.

Officials of the post hope to enlarge the membership greatly following the convention, and are hoping that the convention activities will attract more of the Negro veterans who are eligible for membership into the organization.

There are 600 Negro veterans in Danville, eligible for membership in the post, according to its officials. The largest membership the post has had is 95, and at present it has 36 members. The post was chartered in 1929

## Legionnaires Will

## Attend State Meet

Tom Powell Post No. 7 held its regular election of officers meeting August 24 with W. Hugu Holman, Jr., becoming Commander, to succeed Walter Lindsey. He will be assisted by the following corps of officers: Wm. L. Jackson, adjutant; Theodore Haynes, First Vice Commander; Harry Love, second Vice Commander; Titus Brown, Third Vice Commander; Joe Bowers, Fourth Vice Commander; Pal Vuscovich, chaplain; Lovey Jackson, Sergeant at Arms.

Delegates elected to the State Convention to be held at St. Joseph, Mo., September 5, 6, and 7 were: Robert M. Owens, Walter Lowe, Walter Lindsey, Edige Wyatt, Chris E. Johnson, Hugo Hollomon, Louis Cloyd, Wm. L. Jackson, Fred D. Holloway, Johnnie Robinson, Leo D. Lewis; Alternates: Lee J. Sneed, Atty. A. A. Page, Dolger Simmons, Joseph Loyd, Joe Bowers, Herbert Richards, Ear Wheeler, Gadrey Nicholson, Allen Voorhies and Julian Clay.

From the Jake Linder Post Alexander E. Evans and John T. Smith will go as delegates. Alternates are James E. Hensley and Clifton Hayes.

## Made Vice-Commander Of Mo. American Legion

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Sept. 17—Benjamin Muldrew of the Wayne Miner post of Kansas City, Mo., was elected vice commander of the Missouri State American Legion. He is the third of his race to hold such honors. James J. Jenkins, teacher at the Lincoln high school in Kansas City and Alexander Evans of St. Louis are the two others. Muldrew is one of the two race postal clerks in Kansas City.



Soldiers-1937  
Organization of

# New York Host To 600,000 Visitors As Legionnaires Open 15th Annual Confab

Many Colored Posts Represented — Reunion of Men  
Who Fought in 92nd and 93rd Divisions In  
France One of Chief Features.

By CHARLES T. MABILL

NEW YORK, Sept. 16—Nothing has been left undone for the comfort and pleasure of the 600,000 delegates and visitors who have descended on New York for the Fifteenth annual session of the American Legion.

## Help To Make Your Skin Light

Just use Black and White Bleaching Cream. Note the big improvement after just one application. Helps to clear up bumps, lighten dark skin. Large opal jar, 50c. Medium size, 30c. Trial size, 10c. Demand Black and White Bleaching Cream. Sold at all dealers.

Four Negro posts, the Colonel Charles Young, Jesse Palmer, Mitchell Royall and George P. Davis, are actively participating with the general committee in charge of all arrangements. Representing these posts are the following members:

Walter W. Scott, housing committee; Paul H. McFall, entertainment; Harold N. Clark, in charge of the uptown office of the corporation, and William C. Anderson, reunion committee, all from the Colonel Charles Young Post; George Hodges, parade committee, and Stanley Miles, entertainment, from the Jesse Palmer Post; Aubrey Brooks, registration; Mitchell Palmer Post, and Harold Tillingshast, service committee; George P. Davis Post, of Brooklyn. The headquarters of the Colonel Young Post at 252 71st street, has been selected as the point of registration for colored members.

## 92nd Division Reunion

A feature of the forthcoming convention, scheduled to be the largest ever held by these World War veterans, will be a reunion of the men who fought in the 92nd and 93rd Divisions in France. It will mark the first reunion of these famous divisions, particularly the 92nd, which was completely organized in France of Negro combat regiments. The 93rd Division was only partly organized in

The meeting for the reunion is scheduled to be held at Renaissance Casino Wednesday afternoon, beginning at 3:30. It is planned to go into a permanent organization at that time and to elect officers for the proposed new body of veterans. General Lee Bullard, commander of the 92nd Division in France, is expected to be present at the reunion.

Convention activities really begin with the annual memorial services which will be held Sunday evening at Madison Square Garden. Monday morning, Governor Lehman and Mayor La Guardia are both scheduled to welcome the veterans to this city and State. Thereafter, the business sessions will be held in Madison Square Garden and the entertainment features of the general committee in the Manhattan Opera House on West 34th street.

The spectacular parade is scheduled to consume twenty-four hours, beginning at 9:00 Tuesday morning at 23rd street and Fifth avenue. At 3 o'clock, Wednesday afternoon, the New York State organizations are scheduled to wind up the parade.

## 92nd Veterans to Parade

Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Polo Grounds, three games of baseball will be played, featuring the Stars of Santo Domingo against the Negro National League Stars. The winner will play a team composed of stars from the War veterans, will be a reunion of the men who fought in the 92nd and 93rd Divisions in France. It will mark the first reunion of these famous divisions, particularly the 92nd, which was completely organized in France of Negro combat regiments. The 93rd Division was only partly organized in

Stars of several of New York's famous night clubs are scheduled to be presented there that night. Monday and Wednesday night at the Renaissance Casino, receptions will be held. Half of the proceeds will go to help maintain the American Legion camp for children at Roosa Gap, N. Y., and the other half to the welfare fund of the Col. Charles Young Post, the most active of the four local Negro posts.

Housing accommodations have been carefully selected with families living in the area from 110th street to 155th. It is expected that from 20,000 to 40,000 Negro veterans and their friends will be present at the convention.

## Veteran of 3 Wars Holds High Award

Possessor of the highest service award the United States can bestow, Sergeant George H. Wanton, a veteran of three wars and delegate to the nineteenth annual American Legion convention this week, is one of the convention's distinguished guests. He is the holder of the Congressional Medal of Honor, which he received at the Boston convention in 1930.

Sergeant Wanton is the only Negro upon whom has been conferred

## In Navy and Army.

the award for exceptional valor. Wanton originally enlisted in the navy in 1884 as a third-class apprentice boy on the Minnesota. At the end of his enlistment, in 1888, he was a first-class apprentice. His next enlistment was in the army, wasn't until after the Distinguished Service Cross was bestowed upon him after seeing service in the Spanish-American War, the Philippine insurrection, the Mexican invasion, that Wanton found members of his own race in the group.

## Honored by McKinley.

As a member of the Legion of Valor, Wanton is awarded courtesy and privileges usually reserved for honored guests in the uppermost levels of affairs of state. The sergeant's heroic actions during the Spanish-American War were recognized and honored when President McKinley decorated him in 1898. In the words



George H. Wanton.

addition to the Congressional medal he wears a Pacification badge, one he earned in the war with Spain; an Invasion badge, earned during the Tenth Regiment's pursuit of Pancho Villa across the border, and the World War decoration given to all veterans.

During his stay in New York, Sergeant Wanton has been the house guest of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lee of 412 West 148th street. He and Mr. Lee, a retired first sergeant and old comrade, spent twenty years together in the Tenth Cavalry outfit.

# 10,000 Negro Vets in N. Y. Silent, But They're Talking Up at Home

"What about hospital facilities for Negro vets in your state?"

By Richard Wright

(Daily Worker Harlem Bureau)

## TOUCHY SUBJECT

At every feast it seems that there must be a skeleton in the closet. He looks at you sharply. That's a touchy question. He wants to talk with you and tell you the truth, but he doesn't know who you are.

Under the roaring cheers for the Legion that went up from the sidewalks of Fifth Avenue, there was the hopeful silence of 10,000 Negro Legionnaires. They were from North Carolina, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Illinois, Michigan, Missouri, and many other states.

But there was none from Mississippi, the pride of the 1937 Legion. They do not issue Legion charters to Negro war veterans in Mississippi. Though these black men were good enough to die for America, the state of Mississippi does not think they are good enough to belong to the Legion.

## SAME IN OTHER STATES

Neither does Georgia, Texas, and a few other states south of the Mason-Dixon line. Even some of those southern states that issue charters, do so meagerly, hence in most southern states but one or two Negro posts exist.

But just try to get some information on this from the publicity offices of the Legion. You are told very blandly:

"Why, there is no discrimination with respect to race, creed, or color in the American Legion."

Since the officials won't say anything, let's talk to some of the Negro Legionnaires standing up and down Lenox Avenue.

These men are cordial but cagey. They are from the South and they do not want to say anything that can be used against them when they go back home. They have in their own fashion worked out a relationship with the white people of their respective vicinities and they want to keep that relationship unbroken. They are hard-headed and sensible, these Negro Legionnaires from the South. And he's courteous; first he'll give you a secret handshake, perhaps the pass-sign in some fraternal organization. Then he places himself at your service.

He looks at you sharply. That's a touchy question. He wants to talk with you and tell you the truth, but he doesn't know who you are.

"They're fine," he says. "They're fine, sir!" The conversation is changed and he tells you what a fine thing it is to belong to the Legion. With a quiet joy he tells how Negro vets long to place themselves at the service of their country in peace or war.

The conversation again turns to discrimination in the veteran hospitals in the South. You learn that sometimes a sick Negro vet has to be shipped North for treatment, for the one general hospital in the South at Tuskegee, where they are admitted, is not adequate.

## LETS LOOSE

He is talking freely now. "You know what we did in Baltimore? Why, we passed a resolution for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys. . . ."

But quickly he again changes the subject and talks of other things. That's the psychology of the Negro vet in the South. They resist, but it's done skilfully. They can't lay themselves open to attack. Their protest work must be done under the cloak of loyalty.

"First of all," he explains, "we must be good Legionnaires. Then we make our demands and resolutions and take them to our officers. Of late, they have been acting on them."

## SLOW WORK

"In the last few joint meetings we had in the state of Maryland there was no discrimination. Not even in the city hotels. It's slow work, but we're making headway."

In talking with several others you learn that it was only after a stiff fight that Negro vets were allowed to join mixed posts in Rochester and Syracuse, New York. You learn, further, that Negro doctors are not allowed to practice in Northern hospitals for

But, despite all this, the 10,000 black vets are having a good time in Harlem. This traveling from city to city each year to attend the Legion convention is educating them. Many of them have little formal schooling and their trip across the "pond" in 1917 taught them lots and these trips to conventions are teaching them more.

## NO SEGREGATION IN N. Y.

The fact that they can ride around in New York on subways without being segregated is not lost on them. That the Negroes in New

York can vote and they can't is a challenge.

They have joined the Legion because it's the most influential organization which an ex-service man can belong to. Yet they know that it does not answer all their problems. When they say, "We're making slow headway" their voices carry a doubt.

These vets are ripe for more forthright action than many realize. The idealistic phrases on their lips are there because that's what they believe the public wants here.

But don't forget that some of these black men seized armories in the South directly after the war to protect themselves. When they see their way clear, when they have before them a well-worked plan of action, they'll act.



Soldiers - 1937

Organization of

# 35 Cities Have Race Units At Am. Legion Confab In N.Y. City

NEW YORK, Sept. 30—The Col. Charles Young Post of this city furnished the following statistics on attendance of colored units or individual delegates at the convention of the American Legion here last week. The list is far from complete, inasmuch as many individual delegates were quartered with white State delegations in the downtown area and did not put in Washington, D. C.—James Reese corps led by Bishop Dale, drum major appearance at the headquarters Europe Post and James E. Walker Jr., passed the reviewing stand located at Fifty-ninth Street and following cities, in alphabetical order: Watertown, Conn.—William Wil-Fifth Avenue, they received an excellent ovation from the distinguished officials, made up of Governors, Senators, Congressmen and leading citizens from every section of the country.

Akron, O.—John Fulton Post 272. Post 555.  
Albany, N. Y.—Walter Dixon Post 135. Post 135.  
Ardmore, Pa.—Leon Spencer Post 89.  
Reed Post 547.  
Atlantic City, N. J.—Kenneth Post 1017.  
Hawkins Post 61.  
Asbury Park, N. J.—Fred Dempsey Post 266.  
Baltimore, Md.—Federal Post 19 and Walker Green Post No. 14.  
Boston, Mass.—William E. Carter Post 16.  
Charlotte, N. C.—Col. Charles Young Post 16.  
Chicago, Ill.—George Giles Post 87.  
Cleveland, O.—Post 94.  
Detroit, Mich.—Charles Young Post 77, Thomas Phillips Post 184, Fredericks Post 214.  
Englewood, N. J.—Henry Douglass Post 58.  
Evansville, Ind.—Otis Stone Post 354.  
Fonda, N. Y.—Floyd Deckro Post 363.  
Gary, Ind.—Calumet Post 99.  
Greensboro, N. C.—Maceo T. Alston Post 183.  
Hagerstown, Md.—Charles Harden Post 74.  
Lexington, Ky.—Lexington Post 132.  
Los Angeles, Cal.—Benjamin J. Bowie Post 228.  
Millford, Conn.—Post 34.  
Milton, Mass.—Milton Post 114.  
Minneapolis, Minn.—Jorny Baker Post 291.  
Philadelphia, Pa.—Crispus Attucks Post 151 and George T. Cornish Post 292.  
Salisbury, N. C.—Salisbury Post 107.  
South Boston, Mass.—Bruce Walker Post 99.  
Springfield, Ill.—Harrison Wright Post 289.  
Steubenville, O.—Ferdinand Foch Post 280.

Yonkers, N. Y.—Samuel H. Dow Post 89.  
New York Posts which took part in the convention were the Col. Charles Young, Jesse Palmer and Mitchell Royal of Harlem and the George B. Davis Post of Brooklyn.

Watkins Glen, N. Y.—Seneca Post 555.  
Wichita, Kans.—Post 273.  
Wheeling, W. Va.—Ohio Valley Post 89.

Drum and Bugle corp to appear in the national contest at the convention in which the leading drum and bugle corps of the country participated. They received an excellent rating for their work. During their stay in the city they made their headquarters at the Marietta Hotel, 170 West 121st Street and were the recipients of many courtesies from fellow North Carolinians residing here. The business manager is Prof. W. G. Lino, a teacher in the public schools of Charlotte.

The Corps of the Colonel Charles Young Post was one of the first colored drum and bugle corps to be organized in the American Legion. It is the state champion of North Carolina, and winner of many trophies.

In 1929 the corps won the national trophy in Louisville, Ky. The corps has a membership of 41, who are active in the civic life of the community.

The corps had the distinction of being the guest of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence Celebration and made such an excellent impression that Senator Robert Reynolds wrote a special letter of commendation to the Senate praising their work. They were also the guest of the South Carolina State Department of the American Legion which department has no colored post.

The corps is frequently called upon to participate in many patriotic functions.

The drum corps marching with the North Carolina delegation in the fifth division, made a smart appearance, and was cheered along the route of the parade. When the

Special to Journal and Guide

NEW YORK CITY—The Colored Drum and Bugle Corps of the Colonel Charles Young Post 168 of Charlotte, N. C., made a fine impression in the great American Legion Parade, held on Tuesday, September 21st, in which over 300,000 Legionnaires marched, and which was the crowning feature of the nineteenth annual American Legion Convention.

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Special to Journal and Guide

## LEGION POWWOW JUST A SAD, SAD FLOP TO HARLEM

All the Big Doings Are Staged Downtown  
Whites—Food Wastes in Harlem Res'

By CHARLES T. MAGILL

NEW YORK, Sept. 30—The 1937 convention of the American Legion was a decided flop, if judged strictly from the viewpoint of the colored brother.

For reasons best known to the legionnaires of four local posts, all reception plans miscarried. The visiting colored delegates, when dumped in a city like New York, that they were hardly noticed (although 40,000 were expected) came in Harlem, except at night, when they found that preparations flocked to the cabarets and drink-had been made for their welcome. Sporadic marching along Seventh Avenue and Lenox Avenue by book their own accommodations in units, but for the native Harlem most cases, pay exorbitant prices, lest to know that an American Legion Convention was in progress, they had to do one of things: Make a and of spots, read the newspapers or go downtown where the white legionnaires were raising ten different kinds of hell.

### No Reunion Held

What was to have been the big event of the convention, a reunion of the 92d and 93d Divisions which fought in France, did not take place. There was a lot of pre-convention talk which centered on the forming of a permanent organization to perpetuate the spirit of the various combat units in the Great World War. It was just so much talk, for nothing came of it.

The alleged "Official Legion Dances" were nothing to write about. These included two pay affairs at the Renaissance Casino and one at the Savoy Ballroom but the visiting legionnaires stayed away in droves. To make the situation downright funny, someone proposed that the legionnaires stage a parade, of their own in Harlem. The visiting brothers derided the plan as a "self-imposed Jim Crow." The parade took place last Wednesday night, but to say that 400 took part would be putting it generously.

The visiting colored legionnaires

### Stay at White Hotels

About the only favorable aspect of this convention was the fact that many Negro delegates were quarters of one local post, it was white hotels with white units from their own state. If any hotels balked at this arrangement, or if any white legionnaires complained, it did not reach the ears of the public.

There was no one place where a reporter could obtain a complete list of visiting colored units or individual delegates. At the headquarters of one local post, it was estimated that at least nineteen states were represented, but it was also admitted that many of these states were represented by a single individual. There were few large delegations.

Such local restaurants as the Monterey, the Renaissance Grill

the Ritz, the Patridge Inn, and others, lost considerable money as a result of the convention. These restaurants were overstocked with foods in anticipation of a four-day overflow trade. Actually, the business they did was below normal, and this was attributed to the fact that a sizable portion of the regular trade went downtown to watch the white legionnaires frolic, and

Cheered As It  
Passes Parade  
Review Stand

Organization Active  
In City Patriotic

Occasions

10-2-37







teen hours. Here and there a colored legionnaire was seen marching shoulder to shoulder with white buddies from his own state which was a very heart-warming sight.

However, if the truth is to be told, the colored onlookers were more concerned as to how the solid colored delegations would shape up in comparison with the whites. It is a matter of record that they looked just as good, and that they received a big hand from the two million or more watchers who thronged the line of march.

#### Units Drew Applause

The units that elicited the most admiration, either because of the gaudiness of their uniforms or because of their snappy marching, were the James E. Walker and James Reese Europe Posts, of Washington, D. C.; Federal Post of Baltimore, the Charles Young Post of Detroit, the William E. Carter Post of Boston, and the four local posts, Col. Young, Jesse Royal and Mitchell Palmer of Manhattan and the George P. Davis Post of Brooklyn.

In view of all that has been said, it should not be difficult to understand why Harlem found nothing to complain about in the behavior of visiting legionnaires uptown. Downtown among the whites it was a different story. The ofays did everything they were big enough to do, and this included the abduction of a traffic cop, setting off a tear gas bomb in crowded Times Square, swiping \$1,800 worth of signs from the Street Cleaning Department, riding horses into hotel lobbies, dumping paper bags with water into the street, pawing unescorted women, setting bon fires and turning in scores of false alarms. The white newspapers said that they had a grand time.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer  
October 25, 1937

### NEGRO LEGIONNAIRES STAGE SHOW TONIGHT

A benefit show, featured by a mock military wedding, will be held tonight at 8 o'clock at Lucille Hunter School, sponsored by local Negro Legionnaires.

The Charles T. Norwood Post is staging the performance, which also will include an exhibition by the post's drum and bugle corps and a dance program under direction of the WPA division of the Bishop Tuttle School.

#### MRS. ROBERT A.

Mrs. Robert A. Erwin, connected with the office staff of the State Highway and Public Works Commission for the past several years, has resigned and will leave Nov. 1 to join her husband in Washington, D. C., where he is a staff writer on The Evening Star.

Mrs. Erwin, a graduate of St. Mary's School, is the daughter of

Mr. and Mrs. Horace S. Gaillard of Raleigh. She resides at 401 Capital Apartments. Mr. Erwin formerly was chief of the United Press bureau here. He and Mrs. Erwin will make their home in the south building of the Clifton Terrace Apartments, 14th and Clifton streets, n.w., Washington. He will assist Mr. Erwin in his newspaper and magazine work.

Washington, D. C., News

November 4, 1937

### Negro Legion Post Celebrates

Americanism, that basic principle which founded, built and maintains now, the standards under which America has grown in spirit, physical proportions and financial dominance in spite of its youth, in comparison to other countries, its great conflicts at war; its religious varieties; its political differences and its diversified political ideas. She has remained the leader in world democracy, demanded the respect and inspired the cooperation of the world. These are the standards which every American soldier who went, fought and returned victorious had sacrificed his all for and these are the standards which will hold these U. S. solidly and forever respected by all nations. Join now Britton McKenzie Post, 150, American Legion, and become a more determined factor in maintaining the tenets of that Americanism which resents and opposes any and all radical groups within the borders of this country.

Throughout the week beginning Nov. 7, American Legion sponsors Education Week. Let not these seven days pass without adding materially to your knowledge which will be yours for visiting your schools, churches and other gathering places.

"The Road Back," a most vivid dramatization of the return of the American soldier from "Over There," will be shown at the Macon Theater sponsored by Britton McKenzie Post, on Nov. 11 and 12.

This Armistice Day feature covers the field of human emotions, unfiltered romance with its attendant startling surprises, its ecstatic heights, its dungeons of sorrow, its entrancing love thrills, its disheartening disappointments and finally dominating tears with smiles and sunshine.

See "The Road Back" and give vent to all your pent-up emotional enthusiasm. Tickets are now in the hands of your neighbor or friend.

A. B. Yates, Commander.

## American Legion Post Has Installation Of Newly Elected Staff

On Wednesday the Colonel Charles Young Post No. 398, American Legion, had its newly elected officers of the Post installed with impressive ceremonies by the Commander of New York County, Joseph Burkard, who was accompanied by his entire staff. The installation was held at the headquarters of the Colonel Charles Young Post, at 252 West 138th street. The American Legion Hall was filled to capacity with members and guests.

After the installation ceremonies were completed, the County Commander Burkard, his staff, invited guests and members assembled in the banquet hall where a collation prepared by the American Legion Auxiliary awaited them.

The new commander of the Colonel Charles Young Post, Eugene Faulkner, was complimented by County Commander Burkard on the splendid appearance and spirit of the members of the post who made a striking picture in their brilliant uniforms, and pledged his support and that of the County of New York to the program of the Colonel Charles Young Post for the coming year which will lay special emphasis on unemployment, child welfare and reduction of living costs in the community.

The officers installed were as follows: Eugene Faulkner, commander; Frank A. Davis, 1st vice commander; Frank A. Davis, 1st vice commander; Vernon Campbell, vice commander; Levert Johnson, finance officer; Horace N. Clark, adjutant; Alfred Ware, assistant adjutant; Jesse E. Reid, chaplain; Stewart, sergeant at arms; Elmer Oliver P. Tatem, historian; Arthur P. Sawyer, chairman executive committee; Matthew V. Boutte, county representative; Cary D. Blue.

Daytona Beach, Fla.—Journal  
December 9, 1937

### Legion for Negroes

DELAND, Dec. 8.—Plans were perfected for the establishment of an American Legion post here for negroes at the DeLand post's regular meeting tonight. Post officers will organize the negroes at a meeting in the negro Odd Fellows hall Monday night.

Johnson City, Tenn. Chronicle  
December 11, 1937

## Disabled Negro Veterans Will Get New Home

### Crew Launches Work On \$80,000 Barracks At Soldiers' Facility

Work on a new \$80,000 two-story domiciliary barracks for disabled negro veterans at Mountain Home was started yesterday.

Announcement of the start of work was made by E. H. Dittrich, representative of the construction service of the Veterans Administration, Washington.

#### Brick Building Planned

The new barracks will be adjacent to Barracks 7, occupied by white veterans. Construction will be of fireproof brick, and a slate roof will be provided. The building will have modern fixtures, including passenger elevators.

Col. Lee Harr declared that employees who have been working on construction projects at the Home for the past three years will be employed on the new construction.

#### Structure Needed

"No additional help will be needed," Harr said. "It is hoped as the building program expands in the early spring additional help can be added, but for the time being no persons need apply."

Dittrich, who came here to supervise beginning of work on the building, said its completion would push the total spent on improvements at the home during the past three years to \$895,000.

He explained the new building is needed because there are many negro veterans who are not able to work on the grounds or go to meals, and are badly in need of new quarters.

Soldiers-1937

Regiments, Regular Army

369th's COLONEL  
FACES REMOVAL

NEW YORK, Oct., (CNA)- Colonel John G. Grimley, white commander of Harlem's crack 369th Infantry Regiment, this week was faced with possible loss of his commission as the result of an action instituted by Major General William M. Haskell, commanding General of the New York National Guard.

*Crusader News Agency*  
In the recommendation of General Haskell, Governor Lehman has appointed a military examining board to inquire into the "qualifications and general fitness" of the officer who has commanded the Harlem regiment since 1933.

*10-18-37*  
Colonel Grimley has been the center of agitation for several years, the Harlem community resenting the fact that a white commander was appointed to the famous Negro regiment. Grimley and Lieutenant Colonel James M. Roche are the only white members of the regiment which includes sixty-four Negro officers and 1,070 enlisted men.

*New York, N.Y.*  
Colonel Grimley has been subjected to sharp criticism by community leaders on several occasions. As a member of the Mayor's Commission which investigated the causes of the Harlem outbreak on March 19, 1935, he was charged with refusing to sign the commission's findings on police brutality.

Later he was accused of seeking to appoint a white Catholic priest as chaplain of the regiment, which is overwhelmingly Protestant in faith. After several community leaders had appealed to Governor Lehman, Colonel Grimley gave the post to the Rev. B. C. Robeson, pastor of Mother A. M. E. Zion Church, and brother of Paul Robeson, internationally famous singer and actor.

Brigadier General Egelston, who will preside over the hearing, refused to state whether a date had been set for the action. He also refused to discuss possible procedure.



Soldiers - 1937  
Regiments, Regular Army, etc.

## INCREASING THE ARMY

Secretary of War Woodring, urging a stronger national defense, calls for a permanent peacetime army of 165,000 men and 14,000 officers, an increase of the National Guard from 175,000 to 210,000, the calling of 30,000 instead of 20,000 reserve officers for a fortnight's annual training and the drilling of 50,000 instead of 30,000 young men annually at the Citizen's Military Training Camps. He proposes to add 1500 enlisted men to the regular army each month.

No mention is made of ending the color segregation in the army which excluded Negroes from field artillery, coast artillery, air corps, engineer corps, telephone and telegraph services, which practically ignores Negro reserve officers, which bars Negro youths from Citizens' Military Training Camps and which frowns upon any increase in the number of colored militiamen.

Mr. Woodring thinks one of the most serious problems affecting the army is the difficulty of obtaining sufficient enlistments as industry calls more and more young men to better paid jobs.

There will be no difficulty in obtaining sufficient recruits if the color bar is let down. There are thousands of eager colored lads who would jump at the chance to serve in the army air corps, in the telephone service or with the artillery.

Colored people contribute their share of the half billion dollars in taxes that goes for the upkeep of the army. This is another example of taxation without representation.

## Race Sergeant Named On Guard Of Honor For Inauguration Rites

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21—(ANP)—Sergeant George H. Wanton was selected this week to be one of the eight distinguished veterans who will serve as guard of honor to the President during the inauguration here on January 20.

Sergeant Wanton, who was who had served either in the World War or the Spanish-American war, was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for distinguished service during the Spanish-American war. He will be one of the members of the honor guard when Chief Justice Charles Evan Hughes of the United States Supreme Court administers the oath of office to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Four years ago President Roosevelt had four eagle scouts, two of whom were colored, serve as guard of honor. This year the inaugural committee decided to let that honor go to distinguished veterans

## Cavalrymen Back To Arms

3-19-37  
Ninth Ordered to Drill Each Monday

Kansas City, Mo.  
FORT RILEY, Kas.—The first and second squadrons of the Ninth cavalry have been ordered back-to-arms for the evening drill and review each Monday at 5:15 p. m. until further orders.

The cavalrymen have not held drills for many months while they have been on "stable duty."

First Sergeant W. Harrington is commander of the first squadron.

inauguration, claiming that Negroes would be integrated into every function connected with the official ceremony. They will not only serve with the guard of honor to the President, but will occupy the platform with the President.

## Eighth Regiment

## Off To Camp For War Games

By LT. RAYMOND WATKINS

Under the command of Colonel William J. Warfield, nearly one thousand crack troops of the 8th Infantry Illinois National Guard will leave for Camp Grant from the Union Station a few minutes after midnight July 30. Plans have been completed and orders pertaining to the movement have been issued to all officers. 100 percent of those scheduled to go are the same troopers who made such an outstanding record in the 2nd Army Maneuvers last year in Michigan.

The training this year will amount to only a few days of "field review for combat" after which the regiment is to leave Camp Grant on a two or three day hike returning in time to catch the train for Chicago where they are to take part in the mammoth military show at Soldier Field. Tickets to this event at half price were given ten to each enlisted man and twenty to each officer.

While at Camp Grant unusual events such as tournaments, concerts, dances and athletics, will occupy many busy days for the men and officers. The 66th Brigade camp tournament will comprise three pennant competitions in military activities, Field Meets, and Athletics, with the regiment winning the highest number of points in each pennant race being eligible to win the 66th Brigade Camp Trophy. In addition to the pennants and trophy, individual and team prizes, and other medals will be awarded.

The contest of "Retreat and Guard Mount" in which five Infantry Regiments a Cavalry and an Engineer Regiment will compete

will cover a period of over five days. Each organization is to be represented by a picked battalion. They will be judged on "Military appearance," "Correctness of commands," "Accuracy of posts for officers and noncommissioned officers," "Precision in execution of all movements" with the judges assigned from the Regular Army. The 8th Regiment is scheduled to enter the contest on August 6.

In the field combat training many special schools are to be organized especially for noncommissioned officers each afternoon. They are to be given an intensive course in machine gun, automatic rifles, ballistics, map reading, telephones and radio repair and installation. Privates will generally attend the afternoon schools of musketry and marksmanship. During the mornings, except for special occasions, the first five days will be spent in the field with drills and combat exercises, demonstrations in first aid and personal hygiene, and lectures on citizenship. The first five afternoons of the officers will be spent either in saddle and riding schools, or on actual ground and aerial combat firing problems.

## 170 To Be Decorated

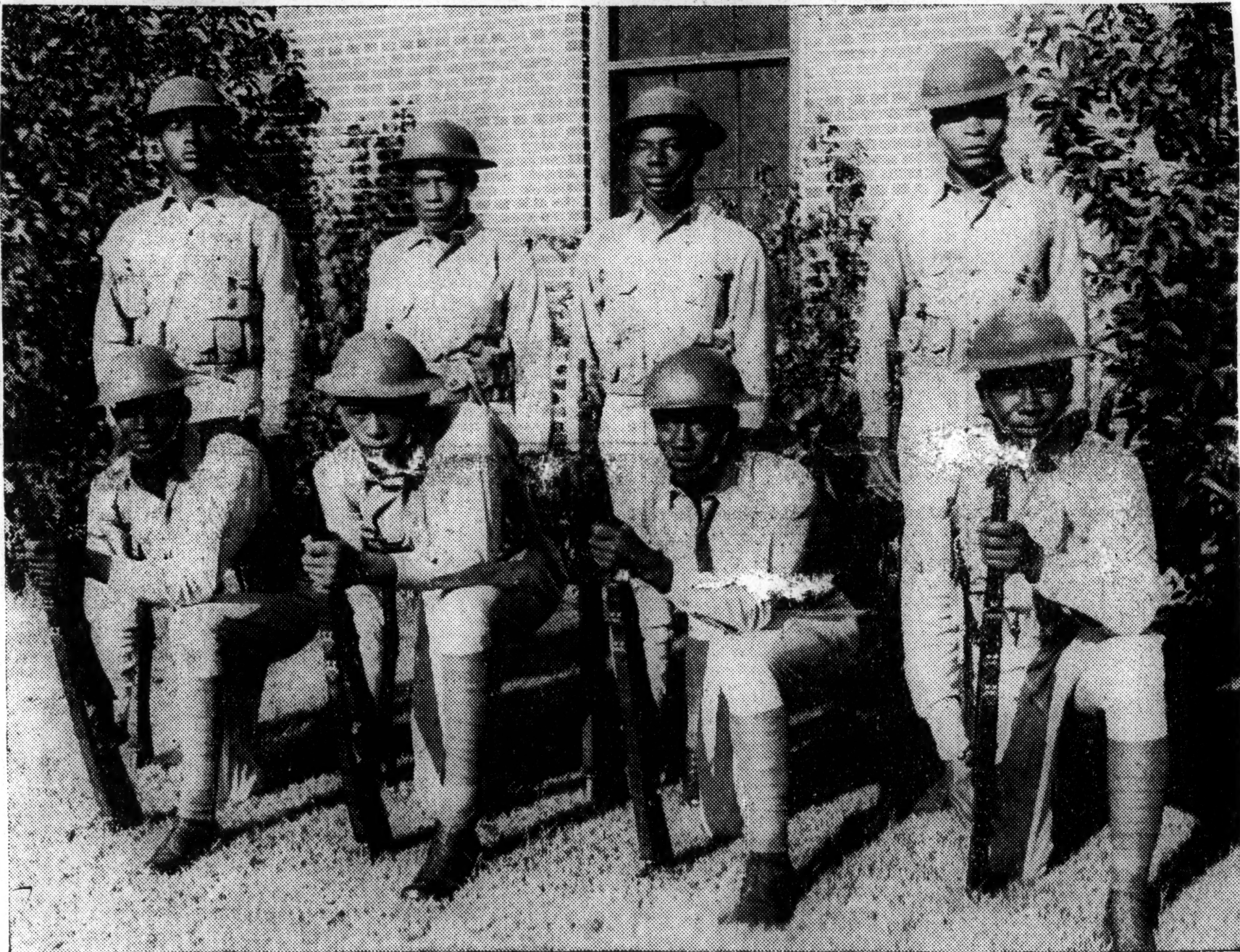
One hundred-seventy officers and men of the regiment will be decorated by the State of Illinois with special "Long Service" medals in a mass-field ceremony while in Camp Grant. The medals will be in recognition for faithful military service from five years upwards. Among those to receive the highest award for over 30 years of continuous service will be Colonel William J. Warfield, Lt. Colonel James C. Hall, Captain Harry L. Allen, Captain Harry Jones, Captain Ben H. Lee, Master Sergeant Lloyd Lawson, 1st Lt. William J. Johnson, Private James Lawrence and about five others whose names have not yet been approved officially. 25-year medals will go to Captain Polk G. Johnson, Major William H. Lewis, 1st Lt. John Meadows, 1st Lt. John Harris; 15-year medals will be awarded Captain Wendell T. Derricks, 1st Lt. George Ellison, 2nd Lt. Nathaniel Freeman, 1st Lt. Raymond Watkins, 1st Sergeant Jesse Hayes, Sergeant Sammie McCoy, 1st Lt. George Christly, Private First Class George Scudder, Sergeant Arthur White, 1st Lt. William O. R. Bourne, Captain David O. Pointer, Sergeant Frank Womack, 1st Sergeant Eddie L. Brown, Private John Stevenson, Sergeant Ellis Ried, Sergeant Fred Riley, 2nd Lt. Roscoe Burton, Sergeant Joseph Henderson, Captain Russel H. Mason, 1st Sergeant Elleson Murphy, Corporal William R. Campbell,



## SQUAD WINS COMBAT COMPETITION SECOND TIME

Staff Sergeant Felix Sherman, Private William Tibbs and Sergeant Ben Williams.

Ten year medals will be given to Staff Sergeant William F. Baxter, 1st Sergeant George Vickers, Sergeant Frank Pryor, Sergeant George Wright, Sergeant Ernest Woods, Private Cleo Backer, 1st Sergeant James Miles, Captain Oscar Randall, 1st Lt. Claude Richardson, Sergeant Ernest Dyer, Sergeant Edgar Fields, Major Homer P. Cooper, Sergeant Henry S. Taylor, Sergeant Frank Middleton, Sergeant William P. Johnson, 2nd Lt. Carl Bell, Tech. Sergeant Leonard Scally, Corporal Vinitious G. Mills, Private Milton Smith, 2nd Lt. Errington R. Johnson, Sergeant Fred Ballard, Private Aaron McHaney, Private Abner Moultrie, Sergeant James Mitchell, 2nd Lt. Thomas Bailey, Private James L. Wheatley, 1st Sergeant Louis Banks, Sergeant Jesse Robinson, 1st Sergeant Leonard Pruitt, Sergeant Marvia Poague, Private William Woods.



Members of the Eighth Squad of Company G, 1st Infantry, at Benning, Ga., who won the annual chief of infantry squad

combat competition. This was the second time the squad, commanded by Corporal Beauregard, won this high award. A tall

trophy, bearing a stake of infantry rifle, with the names of each member of the squad engraved thereon, was awarded the

squad. Left to right, front row: Privates Lewis, Coleman, Sumbry and Corporal Beauregard. Back row: Privates Johns, Marshall, Sympson and Sterling.



Soldiers - 1937  
Riots.

NEXT TO LAST HOUSTON  
MARTYR IS RELEASED

*Press Service N.A.A.C.P.*  
New York, Oct. 15.- Robert Tillman, former member of the 24th Infantry who was sentenced to Leavenworth prison as a result of the Houston riot of 1917 has been released from prison. The Adjutant General's office of the War Department advised the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on October 12 that the unexecuted portion of Tillman's sentence had been remitted and he is a free man.

The N.A.A.C.P. is in the final chapter of its long campaign for the release of the famed Houston martyrs. Only one man still remains in Leavenworth, Stewart W. Phillips. Mr. Phillips would have been released years ago, but he escaped from Leavenworth and had five years of freedom. He was arrested and returned to the prison and naturally is having a harder time securing a parole than he would have had had he not escaped. The N.A.A.C.P. is continuing its efforts in Phillips's behalf however and is hopeful that the War Department will see fit to release him before very long.

**Forgive and Forget**

The release of most of the Negro soldiers convicted of rioting in Houston many years ago expresses in a practical way the government's belief that their offense could be expiated. One still remains in prison, Stewart W. Phillips. Between his case and the other the difference is that he once made his escape, an act which the law punishes.

Granting every point against him, we believe the time has come to let Phillips out. His early record pleads for him; the Houston rioting followed peculiarly exasperating treatment and was not plain criminality; and what should plead louder for him, he is a member of a group whose signally loyal service in the World war has earned mercy for many of their number.

Any purpose which the punishing of these soldiers could serve has long since been accomplished. Houston has turned the page down on their deeds. The only ones left to be affected are Negroes who believe today as they believed then that the men acted in self defense. For the government to insist that the punishment go on and the matter be kept alive is the worst choice it can make.